

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 10457 310432Z

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ACTION EA-06

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 10457

LIMDIS

FOR HABIB FROM SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MARCOS, MRS. IMELDA R.)

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF MRS. IMELDA MARCOS

REF: STATE 179735

1. AS YOU DOUBTLESS KNOW FROM REFTEL, IMELDA MARCOS IS ON THE WING AGAIN, AND WILL PROBABLY ARRIVE IN THE CONTINENTAL U.S. DIRECTLY FROM BOLIVIA ON OR ABOUT 8 AUGUST. DURING MY TALKS WITH YOU, AND SUBSEQUENTLY WITH BRENT SCOWCROFT, WE AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE IN U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST FOR MRS. FORD TO RECEIVE HER AT WHITE HOUSE ON HER NEXT U.S. VISIT.

2. SINCE SHE WAS PREVIOUSLY RUBUFFED IN HER EFFORT TO GET WHITE HOUSE INVITATION, AND SINCE SHE DEMONSTRATED ON HER LAST VISIT TO NEW YORK THAT SHE WILL NOT RPT NOT TAKE INITIATIVE FOR FEAR OF BEING REBUFFED AGAIN, I FEEL INVITATION WILL HAVE TO BE CONVEYED AS FROM MRS. FORD.

3. I KNOW IT IS DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE THIS SORT OF THING WHILE PRESIDENT, MRS. FORD, AND MOST OF WHITE HOUSE STAFF ARE TRAVELLING IN EASTERN EUROPE, BUT I THINK THE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF ANOTHER MISSED OPPORTUNITY ARE TOO GREAT
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PAGE 02 MANILA 10457 310432Z

TO IGNORE. I ALSO THINK THAT A POSITIVE U.S. GESTURE COULD

GATHER US A NUMBER OF DIVIDENDS WE BADLY NEED AT THIS TIME.

4. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT IMELDA'S TIMING WILL PLACE HER AVAILABILITY FOR WASHINGTON VISIT AFTER MIKI HAS LEFT TOWN. IF MRS. FORD'S SCHEDULE WOULD PERMIT A LUNCH OR A TEA AROUND 11 OR 12 AUGUST, THAT WOULD BE IDEAL.

5. IT IS MY STRONG RECOMMENDATION THAT YOU SEEK WHITE HOUSE CONCURRENCE IN PERMITTING OUR AMBASSADOR IN BOLIVIA TO APPROACH IMELDA WHILE SHE IS IN LA PAZ TO EXTEND INVITATION ON BEHALF MRS. FORD. JAY TAYLOR OF NSC STAFF SAT IN ON MY DISCUSSION WITH SCOWCROFT ON THIS SUBJECT.
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